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PIC/JR-1021/61
May 1961

JOINT PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE REPORT



ELECTRONIC SITES NEAR SARY TASH AND MURGAB, USSR



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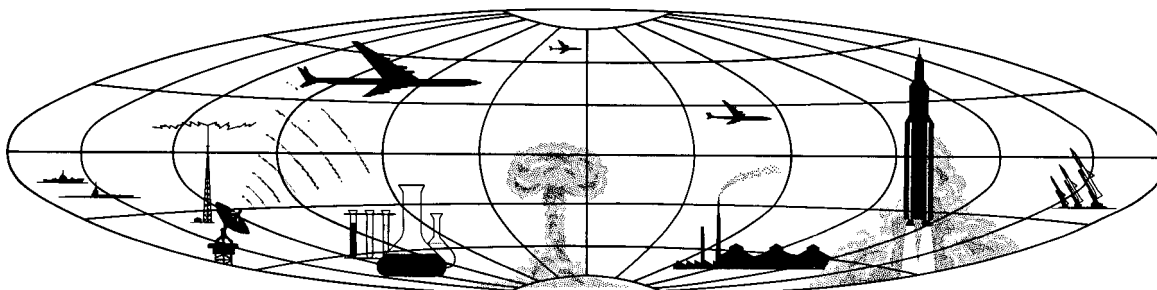
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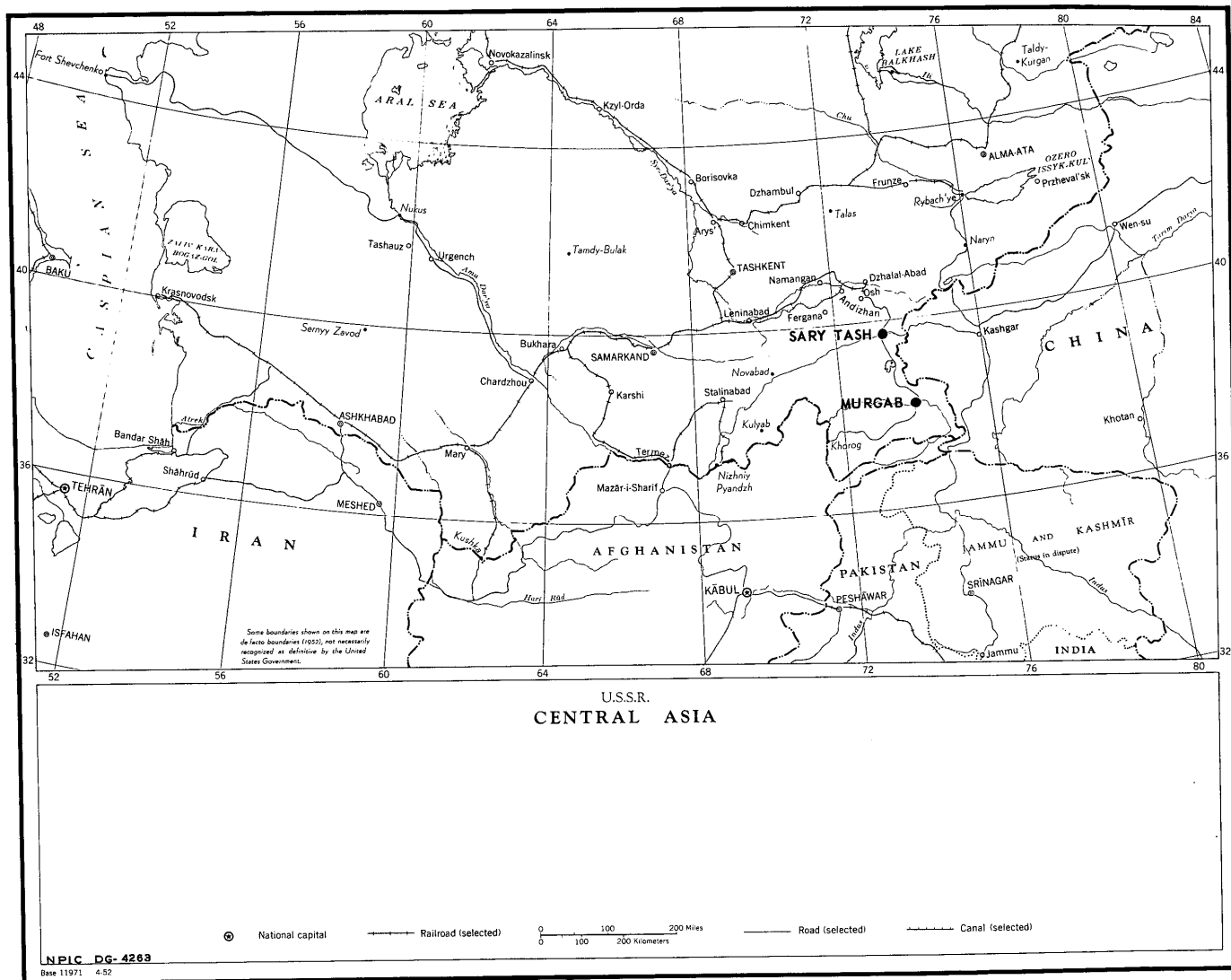
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SUMMARY

Two unusual Soviet electronic sites -- one 2.6 nautical miles south of Sary Tash and one 20 nautical miles east-southeast of Murgab -- are located about 100 nautical miles apart in the mountainous region of south-central USSR bordering China. Both sites are characterized by relative isolation, by an apparent lack of security, and by the presence of both fixed and mobile facilities, radar units, and conventional support structures. The Sary Tash site also contains a possible communication facility.

25X1D The specific function or interrelationship of the two sites cannot be determined from the [REDACTED] photography, although the photography is of good quality. However, the fact that both sites are similar in number and type of facilities suggests they may perform similar missions. Their location near the border suggests a defense role, but the type of radars identified (fire-control type) are not compatible with early-warning or GCI radar sites.

SARY TASH ELECTRONIC SITE

The Sary Tash electronic site (Figure 1), located at 39-42N 73-14E, covers approximately 190 acres and contains two revetted radars with associated vehicles, a possible communication facility, and five major support buildings. It is situated in a relatively isolated area and is characterized by an apparent lack of security. Access into the area is provided by improved dirt roads leading from a hard-surfaced highway running south from Sary Tash. In [REDACTED] the site appeared to be operational and additional construction was evident. 25X1D

A possible communication facility is located at the southeast extremity of the site. This facility includes eight possible poles arranged in a semicircle. Vehicle trackage connects this facility with the site's largest building (item 9), 1,500 feet to the northwest. A dimensional analysis of

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KEY TO ANNOTATIONS, FIGURE 1 -- SARY TASH SITE

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ITEM	DESCRIPTION (from [REDACTED] photography)	DIMENSIONS (Ft)
1	Possible communication facility: 8 possible poles arranged in a semicircle 1 unoccupied revetment 1 bunker u/c	
2	Radar unit, possibly Fire Can type: 2 revetments connected by cable scar 1 revetted radar van (and a small unidentified object) 1 vehicle in other revetment	
3	Whiff-type radar unit: 2 revetments connected by cable scar 1 revetted radar van (with [REDACTED] parabolic reflector) 1 vehicle in other revetment	
4	Building, single-story	
5	Irregular shaped building, single-story, covering area of approximately 1,350 square feet	
6	2 Trucks probably used for construction	
7	Earth mound, possible bunker	
8	Building, single-story, gable-roofed	
9	Building, one and one-half story, flat-roofed, four possible roof vents, probable operations center	
10	Building, either revetted or u/c	
11	Earth mound	
12	Building, single-story, gable-roofed	
13	Building, single-story, flat-roofed, probable guard checkpoint	
14	Building, flat-roofed, five possible roof vents	
15	Excavation, possible revetment or building foundation	
16	11 Possible poles	

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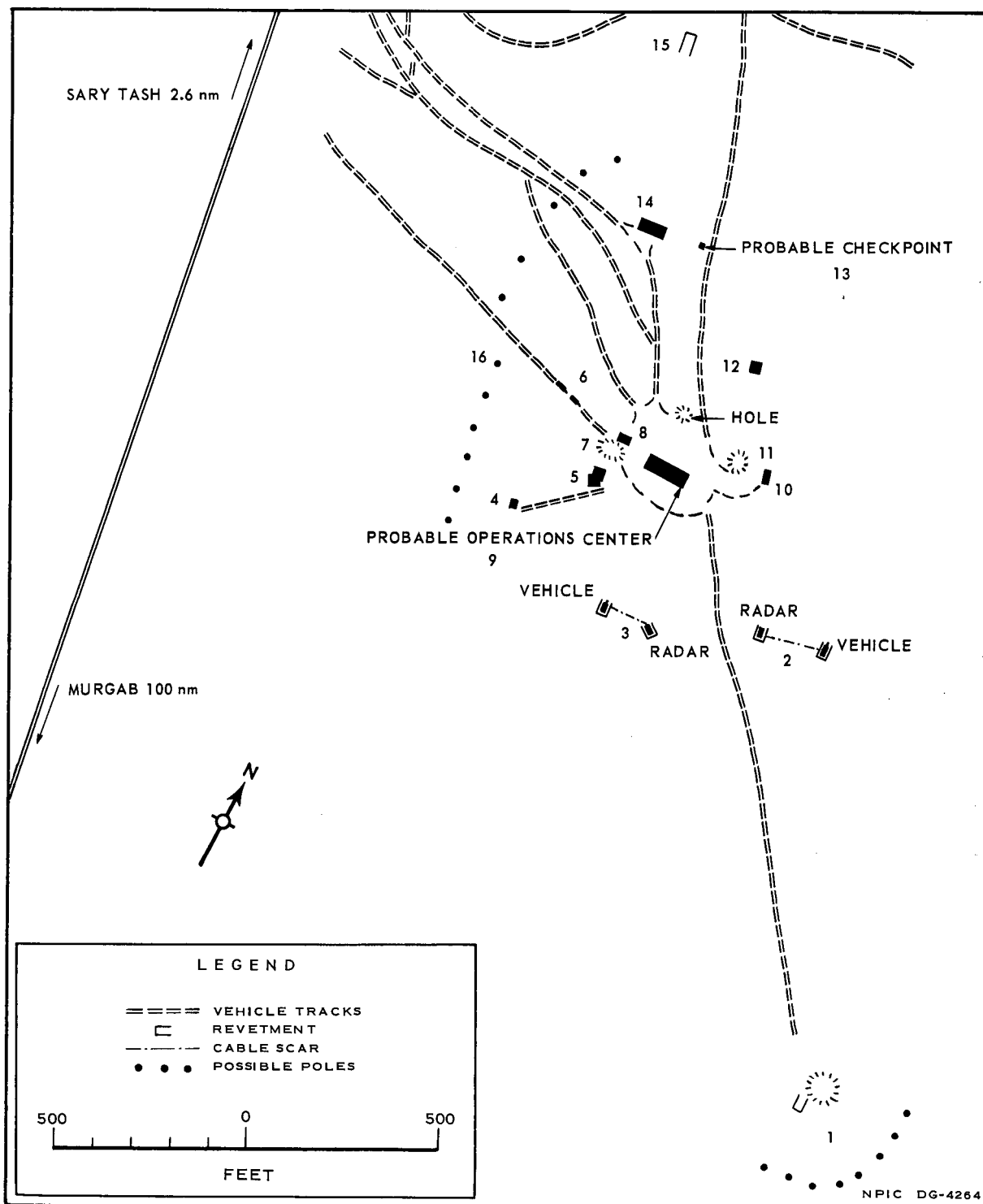


FIGURE 1. ELECTRONIC SITE NEAR SARY TASH, USSR.

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the semicircular arrangement of possible poles follows:

Distance between possible poles Approximately 70 feet

Chord (between end units) 400 feet

Rise (to chord between end units) [REDACTED]

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Radius [REDACTED]

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A perpendicular bisector to the chord passes half way between the two middle possible poles [REDACTED] to the southeast, and it also passes through the bunker under construction 120 feet to the northwest. The azimuth of the perpendicular to the chord is [REDACTED]

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ELECTRONIC SITE NEAR MURGAB

The electronic site near Murgab (Figure 2) is situated along the north bank of the Ak-Su River at 38-04N 74-22E. It covers roughly 120 acres and contains one possible radar, one probable radar unit, at least seven buildings, and several tents, revetments, and vehicles. The terrain on both sides of the river valley is very mountainous and nearly void of activity. The only visible access to the site is provided by an unimproved dirt road that runs between Murgab and Tokhtamyshbeh, a distance of 40 nautical miles. No definite boundaries, fences, or other security measures are noted. Although in [REDACTED] the site contained a few incomplete buildings and new excavations, it appeared to be operational.

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KEY TO ANNOTATIONS, FIGURE 2 -- MURGAB SITE

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSIONS (Ft)
1	14 Tents 1 Pyramidal tent	
2	Probable housing for pumping and/or water purification apparatus	
3	Revetted building or bunker	
4	Building, single-story, gable-roofed	
5	Building, one and one-half story, gable-roofed (base) single-story extension at each end (wings)	
6	Building, one and one-half story, gable-roofed single-story extension	
7	Building, single-story, flat-roofed	
8	Probable radar unit: 2 revetments, with vehicles 1 vehicle 1 vehicle 1 possible radar 1 building, single-story, gable-roofed with possible mast	
9	Two excavations, probable building foundations	
10	Vehicle	
11	Probable bunker	
12	Building, single-story, gable-roofed	
13	Possible radar unit: 4 trucks (4 revetments, probably for emplacement of trucks)	
14	Building, two-story, gable-roofed single-story, gable-roofed extension	
15	Truck	
16	Probable flat-roofed building	
17	Probable building u/c	

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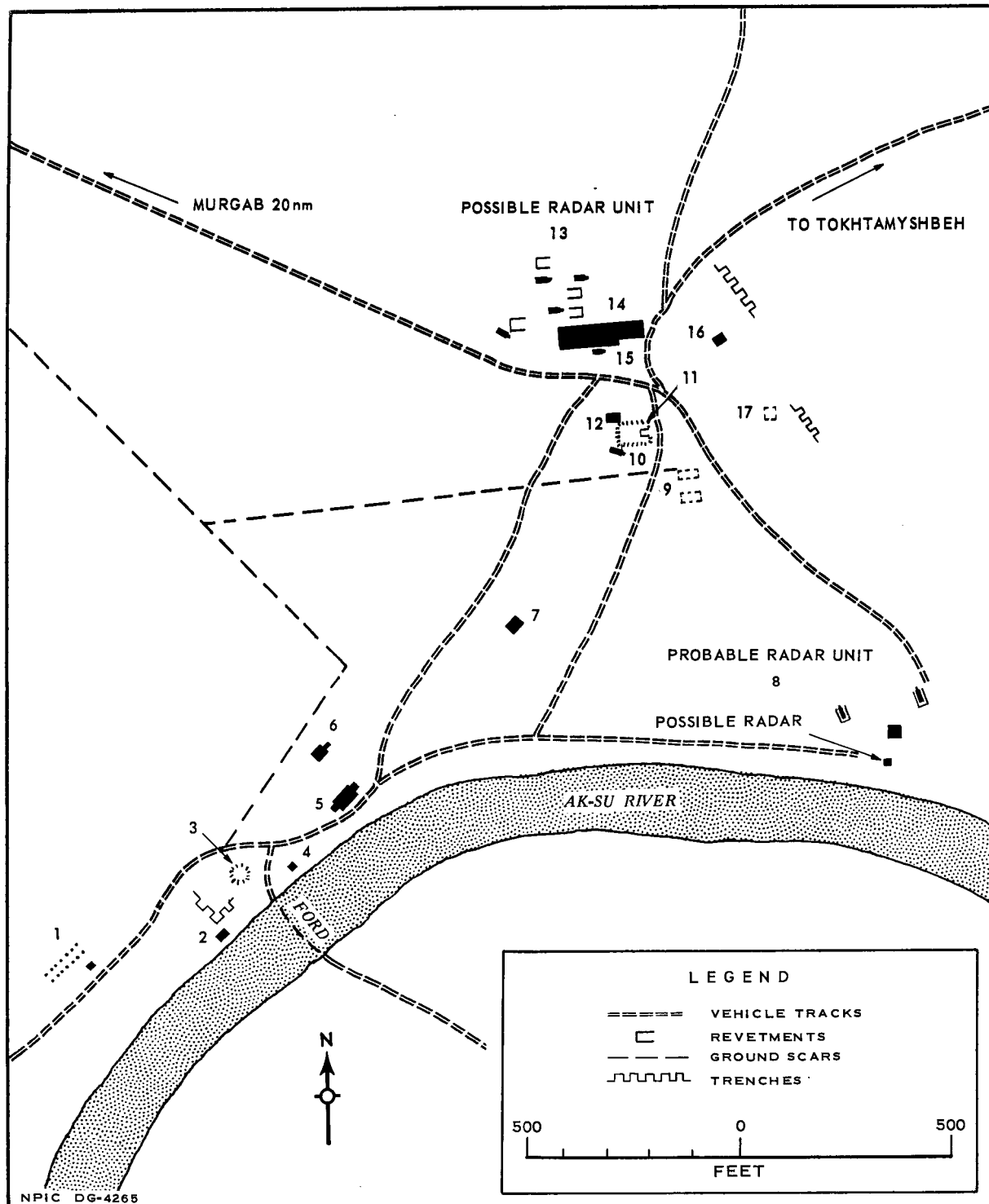


FIGURE 2. ELECTRONIC SITE NEAR MURGAB, USSR.

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Acquisition No

Date

Classification



MAPS or CHARTS

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